

DA CRITICS PARADE BEFORE GRAND JURY

Garrison Calls Kohn

Eugene C. Davis, 704 Iberville, was subpoenaed to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury today in connection with District Attorney Jim Garrison's assassination probe.

Critics of District Attorney Jim Garrison paraded before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury today to discuss the DA's investigation of the slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

By noon, two representatives of the Metropolitan Crime Commission and a television newsman had appeared and a former Garrison aide was awaiting call.

Aaron Kohn, managing director of the MCC, was called in first at 9:30 a. m. and spent 1½ hours behind closed doors with the jury. He was followed by William Monahan, MCC vice-president. Ed Planer of WDSU-TV testified after Monahan finished.

Planer was called in before noon, and later emerged for a conference with his lawyer, Steven B. Lemann, and Walter Sheridan, the former Justice Department investigator who is now with the National Broadcasting Co.

"I talked with my attorney and he gave me very good legal advice," said Planer

before going back before the jury. He would not say what the advice related to.

WAITING TO TESTIFY was William Gurvich, the former Garrison aide, and his brother, Leonard.

States-Item reporter Ross Yockey was subpoenaed to testify later today, and another new witness will be called, not necessarily under subpoena.

There was no indication why Yockey was subpoenaed. No States-Item reporters have testified previously in the probe.

A subpoena was also issued for Kohn to appear tomorrow in the DA's office. Kohn had predicted before he went into the jury room that Garrison would not be there to face him.

GARRISON LATER TOLD the States-Item, "We are issuing a subpoena for Mr. Kohn to appear in my office tomorrow so that he can see me face to face. We are solving his problem."

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LOUIS GURVICH



ED PLANER



WILLIAM GURVICH

—States-Item Photo.

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WAITING TO testify was William Gurvich, the former Garrison aide, and his brother Leonard. There were reports that others might be called.

John Campbell, a French Quarter artist and opera singer, was also called but his subpoena was for the DA's office rather than the grand jury.

As he waited to testify, William Gurvich told newsmen that he planned to take his information against Garrison before a federal grand jury on grounds that some individuals' civil rights have been violated.

Meanwhile, attorney Sam Monk Zelden and his client, Dean A. Andrews, Jr., appeared at the courthouse. Zelden said he plans to file a new motion to quash the perjury indictment against Andrews in the light of a recent claim by the National Broadcasting Co. that there is a Clay Bertrand in New Orleans.

ZELDEN SAID the basis for the perjury charge against Andrews is that he refused to say Bertrand was the same man as Clay L. Shaw, who is under indictment for criminal conspiracy in the slaying of President Kennedy.

Before Kohn began his testimony he said he has sent a third letter to Attorney General Jack P. F. Gremillion in Baton Rouge asking him to investigate Garrison's conduct of the Kennedy death probe.

Asked if he felt Gremillion's reluctance to act constitutes malfeasance, Kohn said the attorney general has wide discretionary powers.

Kohn said he was bringing information on "critically important" matters before the jury in connection with "the multiplicity of individual crimes being alleged against Garrison and his staff."

He said he would publicly reveal some of the information Monday in a luncheon speech at the Press Club of New Orleans.

KOHN SAID the charges against Garrison in connection with the Kennedy probe

raises questions of how other cases have been handled during his term as DA.

Gurvich said he was never paid during the period he worked with Garrison's staff. He said Garrison told him only two or three weeks ago the DA would get a lot of money soon, and assured him he would be paid.

Gurvich had been a key figure in the Kennedy probe since before it was made public by the States-Item in February. Suddenly this week he has been strongly denouncing Garrison and his investigation, though as recently as April Gurvich told newsmen he believed the DA had a strong case against Shaw.

He said last night, however, that the investigation has become "such an obsession with Mr. Garrison that rationality and ethics are unheard of and are never employed."

IF THE district attorney is "not forced to abandon" his case, then "he will go to trial with Clay Shaw. This he must do to satisfy his ego."

"There was no conspiracy," he asserted, "no indication that there was ever a conspiracy anywhere. It was his (Garrison's) own little idea."

"He has no case," Gurvich added. "There was no conspiracy. Jim Garrison isn't capable of finding one."

Gurvich has told reporters he was deeply involved in the investigation from its inception and was privy to all essential information gathered by Garrison's office.

Yesterday, however, one of Garrison's assistant district attorneys charged that Gurvich was only given "odd jobs" to do in the investigation and that "one of his chief complaints was always that he was not given complete knowledge of the investigation."

Another Garrison aide, Andrew Sciambra, told newsmen he "has no doubt" the Kennedy investigation is legitimate.

"I think the American public has got to be confused at this time with all the charges

and countercharges going back and fourth. We should wait for the trial (of Shaw) for all the questions to be answered.

"The question of the legitimacy of the investigation cannot be determined before the Shaw trial is held."

ON A CBS news broadcast last night, Garrison revealed a new wrinkle in his theory of the assassination—that the real killers of the President set Lee Harvey Oswald up as a decoy, to be gunned down by Dallas police.

The death of Dallas Ptn. J. D. Tippit, said the district attorney, was planned by the assassins as a goad to infuriate other members of the police force so that they would shoot Oswald on sight rather than take him prisoner.

The Warren Commission ruled that Oswald, acting alone, first killed Kennedy, then shot Tippit when the patrolman tried to arrest him.

"IT'S WELL known that police officers react violently to the murder of a police officer," said Garrison. "All they (the conspirators) did was arrange for an officer to be sent out to Tenth st., and when officer Tippit arrived there he was murdered, with no other reason than that."

"After he was murdered,"

Garrison continued, "Oswald was pointed to, sitting in the back of the Texas Theater where he'd been told to wait, obviously."

THE PLAN, according to Garrison, was that a police unit would be dispatched to the theater, find Oswald armed, and the "patsy" would be shot on the spot, thus eliminating the possibility of his being interrogated.

"But the Dallas police, apparently — at least the investigating officers—had more humanity in them than the planners had in mind. And this is the first point at which the plan did not work completely," Garrison said.

"So Oswald was not killed there. He was arrested. This left a problem, because if Lee Oswald stayed alive long

enough, obviously he would name names and talk about this thing that he'd been drawn into. It was necessary to kill him."

"THAT'S WHERE Jack Ruby comes into the picture?" asked Mike Wallace, the CBS interviewer. Wallace referred to the Dallas nightclub operator who gunned down Oswald in the basement of the Dallas city jail.

"That's right," Garrison answered. "It was necessary for one of the people involved to kill him."

Gurvich reported last night that Garrison had at least three conspiracies of his own—a plot to raid the local office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a plan to arrest a list of prominent New Orleans citizens, and a decision to beat up two newsmen.



—States-Item photo.

AARON KOHN, left, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, stands with ALBERT V. LABICHE, foreman of the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, prior to entering the jury room today.